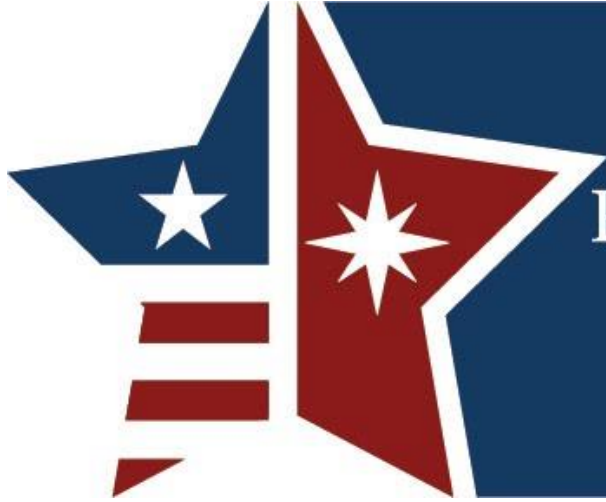


SAMHSA &
Veterans
Administration



Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among SMVF Utah

Co-Chairs

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The Challenge

A call to action, asking state military and civilian interagency teams to embark on a process of collaborating, planning, and implementing suicide prevention best practices and policies for Service Members, Veterans and Families (SMVF) state-wide.

Objectives

- Form an interagency military and civilian team of state leaders and policy makers to develop and implement a strategic action plan to prevent and reduce suicide
- Define and measure success, including defining assignments, deadlines, and measurable outcomes to be reported

Utah's Team

- VAHC (Medical Center SLC)
 - Suicide Prevention, PTSD, Volunteer Services
- Vet Centers
- Utah Army National Guard
- University Veteran Services
- Department of Human Services
 - Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health
- Utah Department of Health
 - Office of the Medical Examiner, Primary Care and Rural Health
- Utah Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- Utah State Board of Education
- Intermountain Healthcare
- State Legislature
- Family member

Focused Priority Areas



Identify Service Members, Veterans and their families and screen for suicide risk



Promote connectedness and improve care transitions



Increase lethal means safety and safety planning

Key Building Blocks of the Strategic Plan

- Evidence Based Practices
- Suicide Prevention Infrastructure
- Data-Driven Planning
- Engaged Leadership
- Sustaining Resources

Team Actions

- SWOT Analysis - complete
- Logic Models for each Priority Area - complete
- Development of Strategic Action Plan
 - Goals and objectives for each Priority Area
- Pilots to implement in each Priority Area - Late Summer/Fall
- Ongoing tasks in the Strategic Action Plan

Action Plans and Pilots

Priority Area 1 – Action Plan / Pilot

- Increase the number of healthcare providers asking if a patient is a Service Member, Veteran or family member.
- Crisis and emergency responders will ask the question to determine if someone is a Service Member, Veteran or family member.
- Identify SMVF who are students at colleges and universities in Utah
- Normalize help seeking by individuals who are SMVF

Priority Area 1 - Pilot

- Increase the number of healthcare providers asking if a patient is a Service Member, Veteran or family member.
- Health Clinics of Utah will implement “Ask the Question” with patients receiving services at their clinics.
 - Creating training to include
 - Military culture and the unique experiences that patients bring with them;
 - How to ask the question about service experience; and
 - What resources are available to SMVF in the community
 - Launch late summer 2022

Priority Area 2 – Action Plan / Pilot

- Increase awareness of and dissemination of resources to SMVF
- Provide federal, state and local resources to SMVF, in particular to family members

Priority Area 2 – Pilot

- Increase awareness of and dissemination of resources to SMVF
- Implement resource awareness with faculty and staff of Purple Star Schools in Davis School District
 - Creation of resource lists which include federal, state and community resources
 - Presentation of resources for families experiencing deployment
- Launch September 2022

Priority Area 3 – Action Plan / Pilot

- Develop a training on access to lethal means for the non-clinician
 - Utilize existing CALM training (Counseling on Access to Lethal Means) from Intermountain Healthcare as the foundation
- Identify social service and community partners who provide lethal means safety training.
- Increase likelihood of SMVF to be willing to utilize available safe storage options

Priority Area 3 – Pilot

- Development of CALM training for non-clinicians
- Collaboration with Intermountain Healthcare to develop “Conversations” Access to Lethal Means
 - Inclusive of SMVF
 - For the public
- Launch Fall 2022

Moving Forward

- Pilot implementations summer and fall, 2022;
- Continued development of the strategic plan goals;
- Environmental scan of Utah: Veterans, Service Members and Families, existing suicide prevention, services and gaps;
- Creation of a resources list (federal, state and community) to be disseminated in both SMVF and civilian areas;
- Development of “Live On Utah” messaging with SMVF focus;
- Future planning for further implementation; and
- Identification of tasks and, if needed, a budget

Team Utah

**“HARD work
and
HEART work”**



Discussion/Questions
